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"She never intruded her feelings at the wrong place or time." However well we may have known the nine ladies whose portraits are painted in this book, we know them better when we have read it.

AGNES REPPLIER.

The Commonwealth of Nations: an Inquiry into the Nature of Citizenship in the British Empire, and into the Mutual Relations of the Several Communities thereof. Edited by L. CURTIS. Part I. (London: The Macmillan Company. 1916. Pp. xix, 722.)

THE study of which the above volume forms the first part, is designed to provide a scientific and historic basis for the effort to develop the British Empire into an actual cohesive commonwealth. It is in essence a report made up from the discussions of the "Round Table Groups", which were formed in 1910 and after, in the various British colonies, for the purpose of studying the nature of citizenship in the empire and, if possible, of suggesting some solution of the more pressing imperial problems. Topics were distributed among the various groups, preliminary studies were made, and the results of the investigations and discussions collected. The matter thus gathered is now given us in part by Mr. Curtis, who has edited the first division of the main report. This division deals with the origins of the British Commonwealth, with the causes which led to its partial disruption in 1783, and with the establishment of a separate commonwealth in America. Part II., as projected, will deal with the subsequent growth of the dismembered British Commonwealth; in part III. it is proposed to examine the principles upon which the members of the widely scattered colonies may retain their status as British citizens in a common state.

The character of the investigation is anything but narrow in its scope. The present volume presents what really amounts to a survey of imperialism in its relation to democracy from the sixth century B.C. to the nineteenth century of the Christian era. After a brief introduction setting forth the chief characteristics of the existing British Empire, it begins with a survey of the rise and fall of city states in Greece, a description of the imperialism of Rome, and a discussion of the later Holy Roman Empire; a brief sketch of the English Commonwealth is followed by a general narrative of the opening of the seas and the beginnings of modern imperialism, and an analysis of the eighteenth-century commercial system. The report then deals with the inclusion of Scotland in the British Commonwealth, gives an account of the American colonies, and a general sketch of the Irish problem from Henry II. to the Union. The last two chapters are concerned with the American Revolution and its effects, and with the growth of the American Commonwealth to the Civil War.

The intrinsic interest of the subject and the editor's gift for sug-

gestive, if not invariably accurate, generalization save the book from dullness. But it is not easy to visualize the audience to which it is addressed. The lay-reader, despite the clearness of style, the auxiliary plans, and the handsome appearance of the book, will hardly be attracted to the seven hundred pages of solid matter. Nor will the scholar be apt to find it of great use. It is essentially an edition of reports, lengthy but marked by serious omissions, made by industrious and intelligent laymen, and drawn from familiar secondary material. Thus the second chapter, dealing with the English Commonwealth, is based almost exclusively upon Freeman's article, "History of England", in the tenth edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, and upon Dicey's *Law of the Constitution*. The chapters covering the commercial system and the American colonies are based almost as exclusively upon Beer and Lecky. The main portion of the chapter upon Ireland is drawn from Lecky's *History of Ireland*; the discussion of the American Revolution is chiefly based upon Marshall's *Life of Washington*.

The book is, in appreciable part, a compilation, as is indicated by the large amount of matter directly quoted. Quotations of a page or more in length are frequent; excerpts extending over three or four pages of print are not rare. The fourth chapter of Dicey's *Law of the Constitution* and the fifth and sixth chapters of Beer's *British Colonial Policy* are printed intact; in addition there is a quotation extending over thirty-four pages from the latter work, while the editor also gives us *in extenso* the Articles of Confederation and the federal Constitution with all its amendments.

The purpose of the work is warmly to be commended, but its value to historical scholars is at least questionable.

CHARLES SEYMOUR.

Ireland under the Stuarts and during the Interregnum. By RICHARD BAGWELL, M.A. Volume III., 1660-1690. (London and New York: Longmans, Green, and Company. 1916. Pp. xi, 351.)

WITH the appearance of the third volume of his history of Ireland under the Stuarts, Mr. Bagwell brings to a conclusion the second part of his monumental labors in Irish history. More than thirty years ago there appeared the first installment of his history of Ireland under the Tudors—which in fact was much greater than its title would imply, as it began with the first invasion of the Northmen. Since then he has added to his work till we now have an account of Ireland during the sixteenth and the greater part of the seventeenth century filling some five considerable volumes. It is, perhaps, almost unnecessary to say that this surpasses in extent and, what is more important, in accuracy, the work of any other Irish historian on this period, and that Mr. Bagwell, in consequence, has achieved at least such distinction as falls to the lot of an exhaustive "authority" within his chosen field. One may only